

Barrington's Substance Abuse Task Force

Drug Free Community Coalition

Barrington High School

200 Lincoln Avenue

April 6, 2015 at 8:45 am.

Present: Kathy Sullivan (Staff), Dr. Kristen Westmoreland (Staff), Joanne Royley (School), Stacie McLoughlin (Parent), Deb Jerome (Civic group), Maura Fay (Parent), Jonathan Ashuler (School), Elsie Wright (School), Deb Perugini (parent), Sara Kriz (media), Ann Johnston (School), Chief John LaCross (Law Enforcement), Mike Skazinski (Faith organization).

Not present: Jen Sapolsky (parent), Susan Freel (parent), Eileen Johnson (Healthcare), Harper Berriman (youth), Diane Block (health care), Bill Cameron (business), Grethe Cobb (healthcare), Claudia Gordon (Parent), Maureen Janetta (School), Bob Shea (School), Chuck Lzbash (Youth Serving Organization), Kim Kelly (youth), Heather Annis (Faith Community), Brendan Curran (Faith Community). Heidi Fanion (Parent), Denise Alves (State Organization with Expertise in field of substance abuse), Deena Davis (Youth Serving Organization)

Committee Reports

Parenting The Parenting group has been busy working on two

projects.

The group is working with HMS to create a Stress Free Garden area. We are hoping to help provide an area where students can spend time if they are experiencing stress and learn new and healthy strategies for calming down during stressful times.

The Committee is also developing an exciting new program called Camp iam! This four day program will take place at the BAY Spring community center and will be open to 7th and 8th grade students. The camp will focus on helping youth develop “sparks” or passions.

According to research from Search Institute, a spark is what people are really passionate about doing, an activity that unleashes their energy and joy, one that may allow them to express themselves and make their own unique contributions to the world.

At Camp iAm we will be helping participants explore their interests and start finding their sparks. To do that, we'll be involving participants in a number of activities and outings. In addition, we will communicate with parents through materials and reflections sent home each day.

Marijuana The Marijuana committee has put together an information guide and has sent this great document to parents of students in grades 6th – 12. The guide has been very well received so far.

The group is also partnering with St. Andrew's School and the Ocean State Prevention Alliance to offer a forum on Marijuana. This will take place at St. Andrew's School on Wednesday, April 8th at 7 pm.

BAY Youth – very busy time for the BAYouth members. There is a “Save a Life Tour” for juniors and seniors on Wednesday focusing on the risks of driving and texting. The students will compete in Mocktails on Thursday at Amica.

There is also crisis training at both BHS and BMS for support staff in the coming week.

CHOICES – the students are working on a Kindness Tree.

The students did a great Kick Butts Day “I am not a Replacement” campaign. Students filled in a sheet with the words: I am not a replacement. I am _____ “ These were displayed in the cafeteria and on a small digital board.

St. Andrews – Will provide students for the Impact of Marijuana Conference.

Policy Prescription Drug - Combined group. Will meet on Tuesday 4/7.

Sustainability - We are “selling” the content of the successful

marijuana guide to prevention colleagues in the state. This is part of the BAY Team's Sustainability plan.

Presentation

Rebecca Elwell, Tiverton Prevention Coalition provided a ppt and discussion on "Marijuana on Main Street? Edibles, advertising and youth" Very informative and lively discussion followed. The Chief would like more information on the negative impact on children/youth to be shared with local leaders. Deb P shared her concerns that medical marijuana is NOT being regulated well by our state.